1	2	3	4
Chhattisgarh	283	364	421
Maharashtra	2651	3003	3121
Goa	363	383	404
Daman and Diu	160	185	188
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	313	376	380
Power-Grid	3	3	3
TAPP U#3	50	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	2617	2855	2871
Karnataka	1571	1523	1558
Tamil Nadu	3186	3298	3333
Kerala	1542	1314	1221
Pondicherry	288	289	286
NLC	100	100	100
Power Grid	6.25	6.25	6.25
Bihar	1120	1170	1401
Jharkhand	267	267	372
D.V.C.	149	124	168
Orissa	705	705	1070
West Bengal	911	911	1043
Sikkim	77	77	144
Arunachal Pradesh	119	119	124
Assam	722	110	656
Manipur	122	122	123
Meghalaya	133	154	179
Mizoram	61	61	66
Nagaland	79	79	103
Tripura	124	111	110

Status of physically challenged persons

286. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of physically challenged persons in the country;

(b) the details of such persons engaged in Government sector and private/organized sector;

(c) whether Government proposes to create jobs to employ physically challenged persons, to improve their socio-economic conditions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) As per the Census 2001, total no. of disabled persons in the country is 2.17 crore.

(b) As pre the available information, 645, 389 and 94 persons with disabilities were employed in the Central Government in years 2004, 2005 and 2006 respectively which constitute 8.57%, 6.94% and 5.83% of all persons recruited in these years in the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Apart from providing reservation to persons with disabilities in Government establishments, efforts are being made to promote their employment in private sector. A new scheme for providing "Incentives to Employers for providing Employment to the Persons with Disabilities" has been launched from 01.04.2008. The scheme envisages payment of employer's contribution to Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) by the Government for the first three years for providing employment to persons with disabilities. The benefit of the scheme is for the persons with monthly wages up to Rs. 25,000/-.

Change in income limit of creamy layer of OBCs

287. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to increase the income limit of creamy layer of OBCs;

(b) if so, the proposals in this regard and by when an amendment to the relevant Act is proposed to be brought before the Parliament;

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the income limit of creamy layer among OBCs to Rs. 5,50,000/-, in view of the recent pay hike by the Central Government, State Governments and others so as to benefit the middle class among OBCs, who are the major aspirants for the central educational institutions such as IITs, NITs, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The Government has decided on 3.10.2008 to raise the income limit for determining the creamy layer among Other Backward Classes (OBCs) from 2.5 lakhs to Rs. 4.5 lakhs.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.